



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20554**

**News Media Information 202 / 418-0500**  
**Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>**  
**TTY: 1-888-835-5322**

---

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
May 9, 2002

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:  
Meribeth McCarrick: (202) 418-0654

## **PROCEEDING TO ALLOCATE NEW FREQUENCY BANDS TO THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE**

Washington, D.C. - The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Notice)* proposing to allocate the 135.7-137.8 kHz and 5250-5400 kHz bands to the amateur radio service on a secondary basis. The Commission also proposed to upgrade the existing secondary amateur radio service allocation in the 2400-2402 MHz band to primary status and to add a primary allocation for the amateur-satellite service in this band. The amateur radio service, provides spectrum for amateur radio service licensees to participate in a voluntary noncommercial communication service which provides emergency communications and allows experimentation with various radio techniques and technologies to further the understanding of radio use and the development of new technologies

This action proposes changes that would enhance the ability of amateur radio operators to conduct technical experiments, including propagation and antenna design experiments, in the "low frequency" (LF) range of the radio spectrum. In addition, the *Notice* proposes to authorize the use of the 5250 kHz band so that amateur licensees' can better match their choice of frequency to existing propagation conditions. The *Notice*, by proposing to upgrade the amateur radio service allocation and add a primary amateur-satellite service allocation in the 2400-2402 MHz band, seeks to protect current amateur use of this band.

Action by the Commission May 2, 2002, by Notice of Proposed Rule Making (FCC 02-136).  
Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps and Martin.

ET Docket No. 02-98

- FCC -

OET Staff Contacts: Kathryn Medley at (202) 418-1211, email at [kmedley@fcc.gov](mailto:kmedley@fcc.gov); or Tom Derenge at (202) 418-2451, e-mail at [tderenge@fcc.gov](mailto:tderenge@fcc.gov).